

led to historic numbers of transgender and nonbinary characters on screen. In many ways, transgender Americans are more visible than ever.

At the same time, the trans community has been forced to withstand severe attacks from laws that would strip fundamental rights to dehumanizing vitriol deployed by elected officials and public figures. These attacks treat trans people as threats to society rather than neighbors, parents, children, friends, and loved ones.

There are more than 2 million people in the United States that identify as transgender or nonbinary. Trans Americans exist in all walks of life all across the country. This transgender week, I call on my colleagues to turn awareness into action.

To the trans community, you have allies in Congress. Let it be known that there has been no greater friend of trans people in this country or LGBTQ people than Speaker NANCY PELOSI.

We will not cease the fight to protect and advocate for our transgender siblings, not just this week but all year long.

#### RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT JOHN GARDNER

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to recognize the 2022 Army Congressional Fellow, Master Sergeant John Gardner, for his service to the Second District of South Carolina.

His yearlong service with the office is ending, and John will be missed. Not only has he been an indispensable coordinator and contributor to legislative goals, including the National Defense Authorization Act, but also a valued team player.

Including a combat tour on the front line as an infantry medic in Iraq, John has held many leadership assignments throughout his 20-year decorated career in the Army, including most recently in the Defense Attache Office of the American Embassy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

John hails from Houston, Texas. He has a master's degree from Colorado State and holds two graduate degrees. His next assignment is in the Pentagon, where John will be a valued participant in peace through strength.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

Godspeed, Speaker NANCY PELOSI.

#### EXPANDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the urgent need

to tackle the affordable housing crisis. The cost of housing is the single biggest challenge facing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Last week, I hosted an affordable housing conference in Attleboro with my friend and colleague Juana Matias, the HUD regional administrator for New England. We spoke with housing officials and developers across the district about the programs and funding available for affordable housing development. I reiterated my commitment to policies from zoning reform to LIHTC expansion to increased production of affordable housing.

Expanding affordable housing is a multigovernment effort that needs support on the Federal, State, and local levels. As the next Congress approaches, we must recommit ourselves to making housing more affordable for working families.

#### HONORING CHRISTINA SCHAUER

(Mrs. HINSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christina Schauer, a veteran and nurse from Dubuque, Iowa, whose courage and dedication to serving others are unmatched.

Christina served our country overseas as a combat medic in Iraq. Our veterans face immense challenges when returning home, and unfortunately, our women veterans are often afraid to speak up about their experiences. They may feel invisible or that their service wasn't worthy. As a result, they may be less likely to seek the care that they have earned.

Christina is working to right this wrong by sharing her own story. She has championed women veteran visibility, empowering her sisters in sacrifice to talk more about their service and seek the healthcare and the benefits they deserve.

So, Christina, thank you for your service and for your commitment to empower women veterans. You are an inspiration to all of us.

#### HONORING KAREN SUTTON

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Karen Sutton, who recently passed away after a long, hard fight with cancer.

Karen spent much of her life in Springfield and was a valued member of our community, always volunteering and attending events all the way up to a few weeks before she passed.

After a long and successful career in data processing, Karen retired from the Illinois Department of Health in 2002.

Karen spent much of her time in the bowling alley, playing in multiple leagues and eventually becoming the league secretary.

Karen also enjoyed traveling to national Mustang shows, where she won many awards. These shows, put on by the Mustang Club of America, allowed Karen to connect with the community of drivers from all over the Nation, whom she greatly valued. She was also praised for her hard work in helping the judging secretaries during these fun yet competitive events.

I am grateful to have known Karen and her husband, Carroll, for many years, and I am thankful for all of her work to make our community a better place to live.

Karen is survived by her husband, Carroll; daughter, Julie; and son, Brent. My condolences to the entire Sutton family during this difficult time.

Karen, may you rest in peace.

#### HONORING MISSISSIPPI FARM BUREAU ON ITS 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. GUEST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100-year anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation.

The Mississippi Farm Bureau is the largest agriculture organization in the State and represents the social and economic interests of farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

Its statewide grassroots structure allows it to be an effective organization, representing and promoting 17 commodities in Mississippi.

The organization is a valuable resource on issues of importance to our farm families, and it works with Federal and State lawmakers to advocate for these priorities.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Mississippi Farm Bureau on important agriculture issues in the future.

May God bless our farmers, and may God continue to bless the Mississippi Farm Bureau.

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#### CALIFORNIA GOING DOWN IN FLAMES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, as I watch my home State of California go down in flames, literally, as we watch how we are running out of electricity, we are running out of water, our store shelves are having less and less food varieties available, our farmers being pushed out of business, our farmworkers being pushed out of business, as we see all of these things happen with mandates coming down the pike, requiring more and more electricity has to be renewable, what is the answer in California?